

## To all outgoing Master students, Fall 2020 & Spring 2021

Subject: update from RSM International Office  
Date: May 28, 2020

Dear Master students,

It is time for a new update from our International Office. In the meanwhile, we hope you are doing well.

### **International Office & Partner Schools**

The International Offices at most partner schools are still working remotely and are in close contact with each other to find solutions/alternatives for all students of which the physical exchange in Fall 2020 has been cancelled.

Current status of cancelled inbound:

- 50% of all Master partner schools have cancelled their inbound;
- Some of these 50% have cancelled their inbound and offer students the opportunity to defer the exchange to Spring 2021;
- Some of these 50% only offer a remote exchange in Fall 2020 and do not offer the opportunity to defer the exchange to Spring 2021;
- Some offer both, a remote exchange in Fall 2020 and (physical) exchange in Spring 2021.
- A few have cancelled the inbound completely, no alternatives are given;
- The other 50% is still waiting for the final decision at their school whether the inbound will be cancelled. Looking at the developments, we unfortunately expect more cancellations to follow.

### **Updates from partner schools:**

Whenever our office receives an update from one of the partner schools, we immediately make sure that those students concerned, receive this news on his/her EUR student mail. In most cases, you are asked to respond as soon as possible, especially when there is an offer for a remote exchange or deferring your exchange to Spring 2021 in place.

**Important!** We know that bad news is hard to process and that you need time to reconsider your plans for Fall 2020 (job market, internship, 2<sup>nd</sup> Master, etc.). But in all cases, please respond to our messages as soon as possible, in order to reserve a spot for either a remote exchange or exchange in Spring 2021. The sooner we know, the better we can inform the partner school and the better chances you have to be admitted, which is important for schools which have limited capacity in their courses and accommodation in Spring.

### **Remote exchange**

In case you choose for a remote exchange, the minimum workload remains 20 EC.

The way of grading remote courses is often Pass/Fail, which does not affect any of you, since local grades are never converted into Dutch ones. Nor does this grading affect any of your cum laude ambitions.

A common reason for this way of grading is that remote exams are not supervised, take place in a different time zone and therefore the performance of students cannot be determined in a proper way. If you do an entire European remote exchange, you are not eligible for an Erasmus+ grant.

### Remote exchange + later arrival at partner school:

See also 'Remote exchange'. In addition to that, some schools offer you the opportunity to start remotely and arrive at their campus at a later stage during Fall. The latter happens at schools in countries where one expects that the situation improves and at schools which are preparing face-to-face classes again.

If there are no travel/visa restrictions, you are welcome to make use of this opportunity. At all times, please inform our office. For those eligible for an Erasmus+ grant: you need to show proof that you are doing the exchange abroad for at least 3 months.

### Defer of exchange to Spring 2021

Our office can only defer your exchange to Spring 2021 if partner schools do offer this alternative. **Never ask or make arrangements with the schools yourself!** And if there is the opportunity to defer the exchange to Spring, please make sure this is done through our office so that your nomination is processed according to their official nomination system. At all times: you must be enrolled as an RSM student from the start of the academic year 2020-2021 onwards and you should be aware that tuition fee continues up and until the exchange registration in Osiris. There will be no reduction fee.

For all students going on exchange in Spring 2021 and who did complete their entire master programme (including thesis and defense), the International Office will arrange the postponement of active degree granting until mid-August 2021. In order to process the postponement correctly, you must submit an Exchange Study Plan (further described in 'Exchange Study Plan before June 15, 2020).

### In case the exchange in Spring 2021 is cancelled

In these uncertain times, no one can predict what will happen in Spring 2021. If there is a chance that the Spring term 2021 also will be cancelled, we assume that partners will inform us well ahead.

If you have completed your entire master programme, you can withdraw your postponement of active degree granting by writing an email to the Examination Board ([eb@rsm.nl](mailto:eb@rsm.nl)). If you did leave an elective open, you need to make this up by completing one or more core courses (worth at least 6 EC) from a different master programme (Fall 2020) or an elective in Spring 2021. Timely registration for these courses/electives is your own responsibility.

### Withdrawal exchange

We fully understand if you, in these circumstances, would like to withdraw from the exchange programme. If you do so, please inform our office ([lvries@rsm.nl](mailto:lvries@rsm.nl)) and we will inform the partner school accordingly. No administration fee will be charged.

### Exchange to another partner school

Some of you have asked our office whether they can switch their exchange to another partner school which is likely to re-open in Fall 2020. This is no longer possible, since all nomination & application deadlines have expired at all partner schools.

### Exchange Study Plan before June 15, 2020

Whenever you do your exchange, either in Fall 2020 or Spring 2021, the deadline to submit your Exchange Study Plan (ESP) remains June 15. On this form, you indicate whether you leave a free elective open or request for postponement of active degree granting. Before submitting the ESP, your academic director must have approved of this plan, either by a digital signature or by email in which he/she confirms the approval of the courses.

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If the course offer at the partner school is not known yet, please look at the ones which were offered in the current academic year (Fall 2019-Spring 2020). In most cases, the course offer does not change that much. If no (preliminary) course offer is available yet, you are allowed to submit your ESP by only completing the first part (your personal details and your choice for free elective/postponement active degree issuing). **You may always change your ESP at a later stage!**

For all questions or for submitting the ESP, use this email: [msc.conversion@rsm.nl](mailto:msc.conversion@rsm.nl)

#### **Continuation of exchange preparations (costs):**

As long as there is no news from your host school that they cancel the inbound, you are advised to continue with your exchange preparations as usual. In the first place, make sure the application reaches the host school in time, stick to their deadline! In the second place, you might encounter non-refundable costs for visa applications, booking accommodation, flight tickets, etc. Unfortunately, this is not in our reach nor can we be held accountable for these costs. The only advice we can give you is to be considerate and cautious of the expenses as much as possible (e.g. flight ticket).

#### **Finally:**

For now, our International Office will continue to keep you updated on any developments regarding your exchange programme. This can either be on an individual basis or through a document like this. We appreciate your confidence that we are committed to making your exchanges a success. We thank you for your patience and flexibility and hope this document answers most of your urgent questions.

All the best, stay safe and healthy - RSM International Office

Master exchange: Linda de Vries - [lvries@rsm.nl](mailto:lvries@rsm.nl)

MSc Exchange Study Plan: Karin Valentijn & Sherida Wong - [msc.conversion@rsm.nl](mailto:msc.conversion@rsm.nl)